# A PLACE TO FIND PEACE...

# IN A TIME OF GREAT NEED



Montana State Hospital needs a chapel. Montana State Hospital needs you.

Make a donation today!

## **CURRENT SITUATION**

Montana State Hospital currently has two chaplains. They provide services, liturgies, counseling, comfort and support to patients and their families.

Services and liturgies are held in classrooms and/or small conference rooms within the Main Hospital and the Therapeutic Learning Center. These rooms serve many functions including court hearings, AA meetings, educational programs, and other therapeutic programs. The atmosphere and environment is that of a typical business office, which usually consists of folding chairs, a table, and dry eraser boards. If the room has windows, they usually do not have coverings.

This informal setting does not provide the sanctuary or the solitude to keep daily distractions from interfering with the healing of contemplation and prayer.

The limited space can be difficult to accommodate patients, their families, and staff during memorial services.



~ FROM OUR CHAPLAINS AND PATIENTS~



"Patients say that they don't attend services because the services are held in a cluttered conference room. Often times, their home church was the last place of nonjudgmental acceptance they had in their communities. A dedicated space meant for spiritual needs providing a sense of refuge is desperately needed. It is imperative in contemporary mental health recovery to recognize, confirm, and encourage the spiritual aspects of each individual." -- Chaplain Fr. Herbert Pins and Chaplain Thomas Wood

"So what's it gonna be? God <u>or</u> me? God <u>and</u> me? Or am I delusional in my reasoning? I'm at a crossroad, moment to moment choosings! Where can I find Him?" - John Y.

"A chapel here would help immensely. Without spirituality, I am not a whole person. While I am Catholic and "traditional Blackfeet" in my spirituality, I respect all religions. Having a chapel and a place to sing songs, hear the power of words, and attend services would contribute a great deal to reduce my stress levels." - - Natalie D.

#### **OUR ENVISIONED PLAN**

The Montana State Hospital chapel is envisioned as a "place of refuge" for patients and their families. They will know intuitively that they are in a sacred space apart from their daily commitment rigors and/or daily anxieties.

The chapel will remain on the Montana State Hospital campus but be constructed as freestanding. By having high windows, shrubbery, and trees; surrounding distractions will be minimized.

The interfaith chapel will provide an area that is easily adaptable to accommodate each faith community utilizing it. No specific group should expect to have its preferred symbols on display at all times. The chapel will consist of a large space to be used for services or liturgies, MSH's chaplains' offices, a smaller space to remain open for individual times of prayer, and a library/reading room.

### PROJECTED TIMELINE

- ~ 3 years of Fundraising
- ~ 2 years of Construction
- ~ Year of Completion 2011

#### ~MISSION STATEMENT~

Montana State Hospital is seeking donations for the construction of a patient chapel for the Warm Springs Campus.

Faith and spirituality are important to the recovery of people with mental illness and often provides strength to persevere when life's events seem overwhelming.

MSH patients have been without a designated chapel since the Hospital Re-Design Project began in 1997. Our chapel will be an interfaith center, welcoming people of all beliefs. The space will be simple, minimally adorned, and easily adaptable. We envision the chapel as a "place of refuge," so patients, their families, and staff members can be comfortable in a location away from the hospital routine, and the stresses of their everyday lives. The chapel will include

worship space, meeting rooms, chaplain offices, and a library. Patients will be actively involved in planning and design processes.

Our goal is to raise \$350,000 for this project. We are seeking support from people across Montana who want to promote the recovery of our patients and help ensure their spiritual needs are met.

MSH is a governmental institute therefore has a 501(c)(3) status. Your donation is tax deductible.

For more information contact: Cristi Boyd at 406-693-7024 or send email to cboyd@mt.gov

Visit our website www.msh.mt.gov

### **ENDORSING ORGANIZATIONS**

- Anaconda Ministerial Association
- Butte Ministerial Association
- Catholic Diocese of Helena

### **AUTHORIZED BY**

The 2005 Montana Legislature and the Department of Public Health and Human Services have authorized this project.

However, no public funds have been appropriated. This project will be funded solely by private donations.

SEND DONATIONS TO: (SEE ATTACHED PLEDGE FORM)

MSH CHAPEL COMMITTEE C/O MONTANA STATE HOSPITAL P.O. BOX 300 WARM SPRINGS, MONTANA 59756

4,200 copies of this public document were published at an estimated cost of \$0.13 per copy, for a total cost of \$550, which includes \$550 for printing and \$0.00 for distribution.

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